



# Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

August 2023



## Old Friends

by Connie Cuff

How many times have I heard at class or seen dog's pulling on the leash. How often do you tug, pull, push or lift your dog to get him to do something? This dynamic works both ways, your dogs are learning this world's rules from you. Challenge yourself to use your voice, body language, your treats and your bond with your dog to communicate your desires regarding his behavior - let him know how much you appreciate his cooperation.

Start by using your words. You are talking with a friend with your dog sitting calmly by your side. You are ready to leave and yank him from his reverie to begin walking. NO That yank teaches him that pressure is a way of life. It also tells him to be

on guard for one of those yanks and never to relax on a walk with you. Walks become pull-and-yank.

Give your dog a heads-up before taking a step - Let's Go, kissing noises - any communication that give him a plan.

We also have the collar grab - instead use your brain to move your dog. Want your dog off the couch? Use touch for him to move. Want him to hold still to put on a collar? Ask for a sit. The collar grab is like the leash yank, it is how we humans get control. We are forcing our best friend when they are capable of learning the most intricate behaviors.

How many times at class has Ray Ramos taken your dog and you are amazed at how well it walks with him. Just follow the rules.

Remember in every interaction we have with our dogs we are teaching them who we are. Watch what happens when you start communicating with your dog rather than using physicality to do things with him, you will find that your time with your dog becomes enjoyable.

Till next time,

*Connie*



## Notes and Notices



**Get well wishes for Gail Lorady.**

**Welcome Gary & Betty Meiser with their Golden Retriever, Peaches; Ginny Rhoads with Labrador Retriever Blossom.**

**Congratulations to Mary McCreary with Gunner, Tracy Sauers with Murphy, and Jim Specht with Goldendoodle Max for passing the ATAD Therapy test.**

**We will be doing sign-ups for our Club Picnic to be held at Pavilion 2, Shikellamy State Park Marina on Sunday, Sept. 24 at 1:00pm. We will provide hot dogs and drinks. Everyone brings a covered dish to be shared and a dog related item for our Chinese Auction. Bring your canine friend for a fun day with games, good food and fellowship.**

**There is a Dog Swim at the Sunbury Community Pool on Sunday, Aug. 13 starting at noon and will run to 6:00pm (unless dog's call it quits sooner). Cost is \$10 per pooch and benefits SUN Pets (spay and neuter org.). Dogs should be up-to-date on their shots. Visitors can swim with their pets free.**

**There is a Therapy Dog event at Penn College on Sunday, Aug. 13 from 2:00 - 4:00pm. It will be held at the Patio Campus Center (rain, campus lobby). It will be held during Welcome Week. You are asked to register for this event by emailing Calli Ackels at [cra18@pct.edu](mailto:cra18@pct.edu)**

**Congratulations to the following Star Puppy Graduates:**

**Norm & Joni Koch with Harper, German Shorthaired Pointer/Goldendoodle; Beth Belotti with Willie, Golden Retriever; Tom Johns with Luka, German Shephard mix; Steve, Jillian and Isabell Lowe with Annie a Golden Retriever; Melissa Bierly with Finn a Boxer; Josiah Courtney with Husky, Stella; Lori Gittens with Stella a Shih Tzu; Mark Gittens with Rudy a Shih Tzu; Aleigha Heimbach with Maddie a Cavapoo, Hannah Smullen with a mix Stella.**

**If you are ATD Certified you must add your visitations to their site. You are required to do at least 1 visitation every 3 months and it must be documented. If this is not done you will be required to be retested.**

## UPCOMING THERAPY VISITS AND CLUB ACTIVITIES

|                        |  |                         |
|------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| <b>Aug. 2 (Wed)</b>    | <b>Heritage Springs</b>                                    | <b>10:00am</b>          |
| <b>Aug. 3 (Thurs)</b>  | <b>Geisinger Rehab, Health South</b>                       | <b>1:00pm</b>           |
| <b>Aug. 9 (Wed)</b>    | <b>Riverwoods</b>  | <b>10:00am</b>          |
| <b>Aug. 10 (Thurs)</b> | <b>Mt. View</b>  | <b>1:30pm</b>           |
| <b>Aug. 13 (Sun)</b>   | <b>Dog Swim<br/>Sunbury Community Pool</b>                 | <b>12:00pm - 6:00pm</b> |
| <b>Aug. 13 (Sun)</b>   | <b>Penn College Wellness Event</b>                         | <b>2:00pm - 4:00pm</b>  |
| <b>Aug. 14 (Mon)</b>   | <b>Grayson View</b>  | <b>6:00pm</b>           |
| <b>Aug. 15 (Tues)</b>  | <b>Lewisburg Max and Camp</b>                              | <b>12:00pm</b>          |
| <b>Aug. 16 (Wed)</b>   | <b>Heritage Springs</b>                                    | <b>10:00am</b>          |
| <b>Aug. 17 (Thurs)</b> | <b>Mansion</b>   | <b>10:30am</b>          |
| <b>Aug. 21 (Mon)</b>   | <b>Columbia County Prison</b>                              | <b>1:00pm</b>           |
| <b>Aug. 26 (Sat)</b>   | <b>Bucknell Sojka Lawn</b>                                 | <b>4:00pm - 8:00pm</b>  |
| <b>Aug. 28 (Mon)</b>   | <b>Nottingham Village<br/>Retirement Center Apartments</b> | <b>6:00pm</b>           |
| <b>Aug. 30 (Wed)</b>   | <b>Heritage Springs</b>                                    | <b>10:00am</b>          |
| <b>Aug. 31 (Thurs)</b> | <b>Geisinger Rehab Health South</b>                        | <b>1:00pm</b>           |

# August 2023

| July 2023 |    |    |    |    |    |    | August 2023 |    |    |    |    |    |    | September 2023 |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|
| S         | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  | S           | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  | S              | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |   |
|           |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |             |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |                |    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2 |
| 2         | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 6           | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 3              | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |   |
| 9         | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 13          | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 10             | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |   |
| 16        | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 20          | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 17             | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |   |
| 23        | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 27          | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    | 24             | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |   |
| 30        | 31 |    |    |    |    |    |             |    |    |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |

- US Holidays
- Susquehanna Trail Dog Training Club

| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday   | Friday | Saturday   |
|--|---|---|---|--|--------|--|
| 30   | 31  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 6:00 PM Advanced Training</li> <li>■ 6:00 PM AKC Star Puppy Class (sign up required)</li> <li>■ 7:00 PM Beginner Training (sign up required)</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 10:00 AM Heritage Springs</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 1:00 PM Health South Geisinger</li> </ul> |        |  |
| 6  | 7   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 6:00 PM Advanced Training</li> <li>■ 6:00 PM AKC Star Puppy Class (sign up required)</li> <li>■ 7:00 PM Beginner Training (sign up required)</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 10:00 AM Riverwoods</li> </ul>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 1:30 PM Mountain View Manor</li> </ul>    |        |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 12:00 PM Dog Swim</li> <li>■ 2:00 PM Penn College Wellness Event</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 6:00 PM Grayson View</li> </ul>                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 12:00 PM Lewisburg Max &amp; Camp (Badged only)</li> <li>■ 6:00 PM Advanced Training</li> <li>■ 6:00 PM AKC Star Puppy Class (sign up required)</li> <li>■ 7:00 PM Beginner Training (sign up required)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 10:00 AM Heritage Springs</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 10:30 AM Mansion Nursing Home</li> </ul>  |        |  |
| 20   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 1:00 PM Columbia County Prison – Certified only</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 6:00 PM Advanced Training</li> <li>■ 6:00 PM AKC Star Puppy Class (sign up required)</li> <li>■ 7:00 PM Beginner Training (sign up required)</li> </ul>  |   |  |        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 4:00 PM Bucknell ATD only (any time)</li> </ul> |
| 27   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 6:00 PM Nottingham Retirement Center</li> </ul>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 6:00 PM Advanced Training</li> <li>■ 6:00 PM AKC Star Puppy Class (sign up required)</li> <li>■ 7:00 PM Beginner Training (sign up required)</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 10:00 AM Heritage Springs</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 1:00 PM Health South Geisinger</li> </ul> |        |  |